

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A sintered body is produced by preparing a metal powder mixture, compacting the metal powder mixture to provide a green compact and then sintering the green compact. The metal powder mixture includes a fine metal powder having a particle size of 75  $\mu\text{m}$  or smaller, a graphite powder in an amount of 0.1 to 1.0% by mass and a powder lubricant in an amount of 0.05 to 0.80% by mass based on a total mass of the metal powder mixture.